

## Message Text

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ACTION ERDA-07

INFO OCT-01 EA-09 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-10 CIAE-00 INR-07

IO-11 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 EB-07 NRC-07 OES-05 DODE-00

AID-05 CEA-01 CIEP-02 COME-00 FPC-01 H-02 INT-05

OMB-01 PM-04 USIA-15 SAM-01 SP-02 SS-15 STR-04

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SUBJECT: BACKGROUND INFORMATION ON FOREIGN ENERGY PROGRAMS

REF: 75 STATE 301432, SEOUL 0528

1. THIS IS THE SECOND OF TWO MESSAGES PROVIDING INFORMATION REQUESTED FOR THE Q.S. ENERGY RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION. THE FORMAT IS KEYED TO THE OUTLINE PROVIDED IN STATE 301432.

### COUNTRY BACKGROUND

### OVERALL GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE

1. RESPONSIBLE MINISTERIES. THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER, WHO IS CONCURRENTLY MINISTER OF THE ECONOMIC PLANNING BOARD, IS RESPONSIBLE FOR THE OVERALL NATIONAL ECONOMIC POLICY FRAMEWORK WITHIN WHICH KOREAN ENERGY PROGRAMS OPERATE. THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY (MCI) IS SPECIFICALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR NON-NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY, INCLUDING IMPORTS, PRODUCTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND PRICING. THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (MOST) IS UNCLASSIFIED

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RESPONSIBLE FOR NUCLEAR ENERGY AND FOR R&D ON ALL TYPES OF ENERGY.

## II. AGENCIES WITHIN MINISTRIES.

A. MCI. THE OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT MINISTER FOR RESOURCES SUPERVISES ALL MCI ENERGY ACTIVITIES. A SUBORDINATE ENERGY DEVELOPMENT BUREAU INCLUDES DIVISIONS DEVOTED TO ENERGY DEVELOPMENT, OIL REFINING, ELECTRIC POWER GENERATION AND RURAL ELECTRIFICATION. COAL COMES UNDER THE SAME ASSISTANT MINISTER'S OFFICE BUT IS A SEPARATE MINING BUREAU. MCI ALSO CONTROLS AND GIVES SURVEY AND EXPLORATION ASSIGNMENTS TO THE NATIONAL GEOLOGICAL AND MINERAL INSTITUTE OF KOREA (GMIK), FOR MINERAL ENERGY RESOURCES SUCH AS OIL, URANIUM, AND THORIUM.

B. MOST. THE ATOMIC ENERGY BUREAU OF MOST REPORTS DIRECTLY TO THE VICE MINISTER OF MOST. THIS BUREAU INCLUDES A PLANNING DIVISION, RADIATION SAFETY DIVISION, AND NUCLEAR REACTOR DIVISION. MOST'S ENERGY R&D RESPONSIBILITY IS CENTERED IN ITS RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT OFFICE, WHICH GIVES ASSIGNMENTS TO PROFESSIONAL RESEARCH INSTITUTES, SUCH AS THE KOREA ATOMIC ENERGY RESEARCH INSTITUTE (KAERI) AND THE KOREA INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (KIST), WHICH ARE GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS.

C. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEES. IN ADDITION TO MCI AND MOST, VARIOUS INTERAGENCY COMMITTEES, WHICH INCLUDE APPOINTED NON-MINISTRY EXPERTS, PLAY AN ADVISORY AND REVIEW ROLE. THESE INCLUDE THE ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE (HEADED BY THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY), THE ELECTRICITY DEVELOPMENT COORDINATION COMMITTEE (HEADED BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER), AND THE COAL DEVELOPMENT COMMITTEE (HEADED BY THE VICE MINISTER OF COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY).

## ENERGY POLICY

I. OBJECTIVES. THE OHREE PRIMARY STATED POLICY GOALS ARE (1) A STABLE MINIMUM-COST ENERGY SUPPLY, (2) DEVELOPMENT OF DOMESTIC ENERGY RESOURCES, AND (3) CONSERVATION. ENERGY R&D IS DIRECTED BY THE GOVERNMENT USING GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS WITHIN KOREA AND GOVERNMENT ARRANGEMENTS WITH NON-KOREAN ENTITIES.

A. INCREASED ENERGY SELF-SUFFICIENCY WILL DEPEND LARGELY ON WHETHER OIL IS DISCOVERED IN COMMERCIAL QUANTITIES. AS NOTED  
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IN SEOUL 0528, OIL EXPLORATION HAS VERY HIGH PRIORITY. KOREA PRESENTLY USES COAL, FIREWOOD AND HYDROPOWER TO PRODUCE ABOUT 47 PERCENT OF ITS ENERGY REQUIREMENTS.

B. SEE SEOUL 0528.

C. R&D WORK IS CARRIED OUT PRIMARILY IN GOVERNMENT SUPPORTED INSTITUTIONS, SUCH AS KAERI AND KIST ON ORDER FROM MOST, OR IN

THE CASE OF MINERALS EXPLORATION ON ORDER FROM MCI.

D AND E. THE MAJOR ELECTRIC COMPANY IS MAJORITY GOVERNMENT OWNED. THERE IS LITTLE INVOLVEMENT BY PRIVATE KOREAN INDUSTRY IN ENERGY R&D, EXCEPT IN THE CASE OF COAL WHERE GOVERNMENT WORKS WITH THE STATE-RUN DAI HAN COAL CORPORATION.

F. BASIC LEGISLATION ON ENERGY CONSISTS OF 15 MAJOR LAWS DEALING SPECIFICALLY WITH ENERGY, INCLUDING THE ATOMIC ENERGY LAW AND THE PETROLEUM BUSINESS LAW. UNDER EXISTING LEGISLATION THE GOVERNMENT HAS BROAD AUTHORITY TO FORMULATE AND EXECUTE ENERGY POLICY.

## II. ENERGY R&D ACTIVITIES.

A. ONSHORE OIL PROSPECTING BY THE GOVERNMENT IS THE MAJOR IMMEDIATE DEVELOPMENT PRIORITY, SPURRED BY A RECENT SHOW OF OIL AT A SITE NEAR POHANG. PLANS TO INTENSIFY EXPLORATION FOR URANIUM AND THORIUM ORE HAVE ALSO BEEN ANNOUNCED IN THE LAST FEW DAYS. LESSER R&D PRIORITIES WERE DETAILED IN SEOUL 0528.

B. SEE SEOUL 0528.

## INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES

I. THE REPUBLIC OF KOREA IS AN ACTIVE MEMBER OF THE INTERNATIONAL ATOMIC ENERGY AGENCY (IAEA) AND ALSO PARTICIPATES IN ENERGY ASPECTS OF THE WORK OF THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COMMISSION FOR ASIA AND THE PACIFIC (ESCAP).

II. ASIDE FROM BILATERAL AGREEMENTS WITH THE US, THE ROK HAS SEVERAL PUBLISHED ENERGY R&D AGREEMENTS IN FORCE AND ACTIVE: 5/15/61 AGREEMENT WITH IAEA ON TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (SUPPLEMENTED UNCLASSIFIED

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BY 4/17/67 AGREEMENT SIGNED WITH IAEA), 1/5/68 JOINT ROK-US-IAEA AGREEMENT ON APPLICATION OF SAFEGUARDS ON USE OF ATOMIC ENERGY, 10/9/74 REGIONAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT FOR R&D AND TRAINING RELATED TO NUCLEAR SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY (OTHER SIGNATORIES UNKNOWN), 10/19/74 EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN MOST AND FRENCH AEC ON COOPERATION FOR PEACEFUL USES OF ATOMIC ENERGY AND 1/26/76 AGREEMENT WITH CANADA FOR COOPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND APPLICATION OF ATOMIC ENERGY FOR PEACEFUL USES.  
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